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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT Application of

Martin KADNER, et al.

Serial No. 08/039,498

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: April 28, 1993

Examiner: Unknown

For: THE PROCESS FRO PRODUCING ALUMINIUM OXIDE

November 4, 1993

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the documents which have been cited against counterparts of the present application.

In connection with PCT/EP 91/02057, the basis for the present application, the following were cited:

- a. Published French Application FR-A-2,387,076.
U.S. Patent 4,285,645 is a counterpart.
- b. Published German Application DE-A-2,942,768.
U.S. Patent 4,309,312 is a counterpart.
- c. Published French Application FR-A-2,135,598.
U.S. Patent 4,043,507 is a counterpart.
- d. Published German Application DE-A-1,803,724.
U.S. Patent 3,579,721 is a counterpart.
The German Patent Office cited:
- e. U.S. Patent 4,198,318.
Copies of these documents are attached.

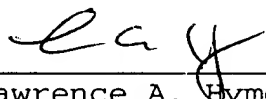
Applicants would note that, in U.S. Patent 4,198,318, claim 1 may be pertinent, in light of French Patent Application 2,387,076. However, the French application is not concerned with a method for producing aluminum oxide beads. It relates to micro-beads of uranium oxide. There

is no suggestion to use the known process for producing aluminum beads having a viscosity of 10 to 500 mPa's.

U.S. Patent 4,198,318 relates to a method for producing aluminum oxide beads by dropping a solution containing aluminum trichloride into a hot oil bath. Contrary to this, according to the present invention, aluminum oxide hydrosol droplets are generated by vibration, the droplets are pre-solidified by ammonia gas and then they are collected in an ammonia solution.

We request that these documents be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,
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